



In Utah, does a patient at a skilled nursing facility have the legal right to have her husband change her brief instead of a CNA and if so, which law(s) State it the clearest?

Yes—generally, if the resident has decision-making capacity and wants her husband to provide that personal care, Utah resident-rights rules support that choice through rights to dignity, privacy in personal care, and making choices about care. The clearest authorities are Utah Admin. Code R432-150-12(3)(i), (k), and (v), plus the federal nursing-home resident-rights rule at 42 C.F.R. § 483.10(a), (e), and (f).^[1] ^[2]

Clearest Utah law

For a skilled nursing facility in Utah, the strongest state citation is Utah Admin. Code R432-150-12(3), which says the resident has the right to be “treated with consideration, respect, and full recognition of dignity and individuality, including privacy in treatment and in care for personal needs,” to “associate and communicate privately with persons of the resident’s choice,” and to “make choices about all aspects of life in the facility that are significant to the resident.”^[2]

That is the best fit for a husband changing a brief, because it supports the resident’s choice about who provides intimate personal care, so long as it can be done safely and does not conflict with the care plan or another resident’s rights.^[2]

Federal law that helps

The clearest federal backup is 42 C.F.R. § 483.10, which protects a resident’s right to a dignified existence, self-determination, and participation in care decisions. It also gives the resident the right to be treated with respect and to choose how care is delivered within the facility’s rules and the resident’s care plan.^[3] ^[4]

Important limit

This is not an absolute right to demand any person do any task at any time. The facility can still require that care be performed safely, consistent with infection control, staffing rules, and the resident’s plan of care, and it may refuse if there is a documented safety or care-planning reason.^[3] ^[2]

Best wording to use

If you are asking the facility in writing, the most useful wording is: the resident is exercising her rights to dignity, privacy, and choice of caregiver under Utah Admin. Code R432-150-12(3) (i), (k), and (v), and asks that her husband be permitted to assist with brief changes when she requests it and when clinically safe.^[2]

One Utah-specific note

Utah also has a broader nursing-care-facility rule that says residents must be treated with dignity and privacy in care for personal needs, which reinforces the same point.^[1]

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1. <https://seniorjustice.com/can-male-nurse-change-moms-diaper-nursing-home/>
2. <https://credenzahealth.com/facilities/resources/nursing-home-resident-rights-state-by-state-facility-guide>
3. <https://ltcombudsman.org/issues/residents-rights>
4. https://downloads.cms.gov/medicare/your_resident_rights_and_protections_section.pdf
5. <https://healthcare.utah.edu/patient-family-services/patient-rights>
6. https://rules.utah.gov/publicat/code_rtf/r432-150.rtf
7. <https://finkrosnerershow-levenberg.com/tips-on-residents-rights-in-nursing-homes/>
8. <https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/utah/Utah-Admin-Code-R414-523-4>
9. <https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/utah/Utah-Admin-Code-R432-750-8>
10. <https://www.mcguiffey.net/nursing-home-resident-rights>
11. <https://le.utah.gov/~2020/bills/hbillenr/HB0274.htm>
12. <https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/utah/Utah-Admin-Code-R432-550-13>
13. https://www.jfssd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/RightsFacility_SNF.pdf
14. https://ucoa.utah.edu/_resources/documents/Utah_Caregiver_Report_2022_DIGITAL.pdf
15. <https://www.curlerlaw.com/blog/2025/7/30/understanding-nursing-home-residents-rights-protecting-dignity-and-care>
16. <https://theconsumervoice.org/transfer-discharge/>
17. <https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/utah/Utah-Admin-Code-R432-270-10>
18. <https://ltcombudsman.org/uploads/files/support/appendix-5.pdf>
19. <https://le.utah.gov/xcode/Title58/Chapter31B/58-31b-S308.1.html>
20. <https://www.elderlawanswers.com/the-rights-of-nursing-home-residents-12149>